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MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

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MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

022140Z

CIA/WHSS

33091

SOURCE REF:

02-4503

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2	5	8	11
3	6	9	12

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ITEM NO: WH-3

DATE: 2 JULY 1974

SUBJECT: FORMATION OF ICELANDIC GOVERNMENT MAY BE SEEN AS

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THE US EMBASSY IN REYKJAVIK ESTIMATES THAT IT MAY TAKE FOUR TO SIX WEEKS TO FORM A NEW COALITION GOVERNMENT BECAUSE OF DIFFERENCES THAT MUST FIRST BE RECONCILED. THE MOST LIKELY GOVERNMENT STILL SEEMS TO BE ONE THAT WOULD INCLUDE THE INDEPENDENCE AND PROGRESSIVE PARTIES, ALTHOUGH THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS COULD ALSO PARTICIPATE. PROGRESSIVE PARTY SPOKESMEN HAVE SAID THE PARTY INTENDS TO DEMAND CONCESSIONS ON BOTH ECONOMIC AND DEFENSE ISSUES AS THE PRICE FOR COOPERATING WITH THE INDEPENDENCE PARTY. THE PROGRESSIVE, HOWEVER, AS HEAD OF THE OUTGOING COALITION, WOULD LIKE TO STAY IN POWER.

PRIME MINISTER JOHANNESSON SUBMITTED HIS RESIGNATION YESTERDAY
AND WAS IMMEDIATELY ASKED ^{TO} ~~FOR~~ FORM A CARETAKER GOVERNMENT. HE

DATE: 01/01/2001
ORIG: State Department review completed
UNIT: 100-441100-1000
EXT: 1000

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GOING MESSAGE

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ROUTING

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HAS CALLED A SPECIAL SESSION OF PARLIAMENT FOR JULY 18, PROBABLY
TO DEAL WITH THE COUNTRY'S MOUNTING ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.

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